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Bolinao language

The **Bolinao language** or **Binubolinao** is a Central Luzon language spoken primarily in the municipalities of Bolinao and Anda, Pangasinan in the Philippines. It has approximately 50,000 speakers (Ethnologue 1990), making it the second most widely spoken Sambalic language. Most Bolinao speakers can speak Pangasinan and Ilocano.

Bolinao	
Binu-Bolinao	
Native to	Philippines
Region	Bolinao and Anda, Pangasinan
Ethnicity	Bolinao people
Native speakers	51,000 (2007 census)[1]
Language family	Austronesian ▪ Malayo-Polynesian ▪ Philippine ▪ Central Luzon ▪ Sambalic ▪ **Bolinao**
Writing system	Latin (Filipino alphabet) *Historically Baybayin*
Official status	
Regulated by	Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	smk
Glottolog	boli1256 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/boli1256)[2]

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Phonology

Bolinao has 21 phonemes: 16 consonants and five vowels. Syllable structure is relatively simple. Each syllable contains at least a consonant and a vowel.

Vowels

Bolinao has five vowels. They are:

- /a/ an open front unrounded vowel similar to English *f**a**ther*
- /ə/ (written as ⟨e⟩) a mid central vowel pronounced as in English *tel**e**phone*
- /i/ a close front unrounded vowel similar to English *mach**i**ne*
- /o/ a close-mid back rounded vowel similar to English *f**o**rty*
- /u/ a close back rounded vowel similar to English *fl**u**te*

There are six main diphthongs: /aɪ/, /əɪ/, /oɪ/, /uɪ/, /aʊ/, and /iʊ/.

Consonants

Below is a chart of Bolinao consonants. All the stops are unaspirated. The velar nasal occurs in all positions including at the beginning of a word.

		Bilabial	Dental	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Nasal		m	n	(ny) /ɲ/	ng /ŋ/	
Plosive	**Voiceless**	p	t		k	’ /ʔ/
	Voiced	b	d		g	
Affricate	**Voiceless**		(ts)	(ty) /tʃ/		
	Voiced			(dy) /dʒ/		
Fricative			s	(sy) /ʃ/		h
Flap			r			
Approximant				j	w	
Lateral			l	(ly) /ʎ/		

Language comparison

A common proverb[3] from Philippine national hero Jose Rizal in English, “*He who does not acknowledge his beginnings will not reach his destination*,” is translated into Bolinao, followed by the provincial language Pangasinan, the regional language Ilocano, and the original in Tagalog for comparison:

Bolinao	"Si'ya a kai tanda' nin lumingap sa pinangibwatan na, kai ya makarate' sa keen na."
Pangasinan	"Say toon agga onlingao ed pinanlapuan to, agga makasabi'd laen to."
Ilocano	"Ti tao nga saan na ammo tumaliaw iti naggapuanna ket saan nga makadanon iti papananna."
Tagalog	"Ang hindi marunong lumingon sa pinanggalingan ay hindi makararating sa paroroonan."

See also

- Languages of the Philippines

References

1. Bolinao (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/smk/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Bolinao" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/boli1256). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. National Philippine Proverb in Various Philippine Languages (http://iloko.tripod.com/philproverb.html)

External links

- Binubolinao.com (http://www.binubolinao.com/), website dedicated to the preservation of the Bolinao language.
- bolinao.webonary.org (http://bolinao.webonary.org/), an online Binubolinao or Bolinao dictionary.

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